

Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
March 12, 2009
Minutes

Attendees: Mary Feathers, Chair, Shamim Patwa , Vice Chair, Chris Kueffner, Secretary, Mark LaPlaca, Min Lin, Katherine Paulhus, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin. Director of Finance, Jeff Smith

Absent: Dudley Hamlin, Martha Kelly

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by Ms. Feathers, Chair.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: Kim O'Keefe spoke regarding regionalization, Chaplin's request to tuition students to Mansfield, four school building project, and Mansfield 2020. Chloe Chibeau, Colleen Crepeau, and Anne Makuch spoke regarding recess in 5th grade at Mansfield Middle School.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Ms. Patwa stated the Personnel Committee is currently in negotiation with the school nurses' association. Ms. Feathers reported that the Building Committee is still gathering information on the four options.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- Language Arts/Reading Update: Judy Shay, Language Arts/Reading Consultant reviewed winter district assessment scores and their implications.
- Mathematics Update: Karen Moylan reviewed progress in the first year implementation of the *Bridges in Mathematics Program* and assessment results.
- School Security Grant – **MOTION** by Ms. Patwa, seconded by Mr. LaPlaca to accept the school security grant if appropriated by the State. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

- December 31, 2008 Quarterly Report – Jeff Smith discussed the quarterly financials. **MOTION** by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Ms. Patwa to accept the December 31, 2008 Quarterly Report. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.
- MMS Fuel Conversion Report: Mr. Smith reported that bids have been opened and a contract will be awarded soon.
- Four School Renovation Project: Site Visits: Mr. Baruzzi reported that a committee has been formed of teachers, district staff, and parents to visit similar elementary schools to observe a typical day of operation, speak with selected school staff, and meet with district personnel.
- Response to Chaplin Board of Education: Mr. Baruzzi shared a draft of a letter to Chaplin Board of Education addressing the questions they requested regarding 7/8 Grade Chaplin students attending Mansfield Middle School and was directed to send the written response to the Chaplin Board of Education.

Mrs. Kelly arrived at 9:20pm.

- EASTCONN Summit on Regional Collaboration: Mr. Baruzzi reported that a district team attended the summit on regionalism to discuss what's possible and what's necessary.
- Mansfield 2020 – Mr. Baruzzi and the administrators will complete and submit the forms as requested to Matt Hart, Town Manager.
- Request for Polling at Southeast School: The Board reviewed a letter from the Registrars of Voting requesting polling be allowed at Southeast School. After considerable discussion, the Board decided by consensus for the safety of students, they would not approve

polling at Southeast School and asked the registrars to consider other places in town.

- Enhancing Student Achievement – Mr. Baruzzi reported that he has approved an additional request for funding.
- Class Size/Enrollment – The administrators reported no significant change in enrollment.
- Personnel - . **MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded by Ms. Lin to decline with regret the request from Sarah Kania, Literacy Coach/Remedial Reading Teacher at Vinton School for an extension of her leave of absence for the 2009-2010 school year. **VOTE:** All in favor with one no. Mr. LaPlaca voted no.

Mrs. Paulhus left at 10:20pm.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: **MOTION** by Ms. Patwa, seconded Mrs. Kelly that the following item for the Board of Education meeting of March 12, 2009 be approved or received for the record: **VOTE:** Unanimous

The following items for the Board of Education March 12, 2009 meeting be approved or received for the record, unless removed by a Board member or the Superintendent of Schools.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the January 29, 2009 and February 5, 2009 Board meetings.
That the Mansfield Board of Education adopt the 2009-2010 school calendar as recommended by the superintendent.
That the Mansfield Board of Education approves the proposal for a Writing Center at Mansfield Middle School.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: **MOTION** by Ms. Patwa, seconded Mr. LaPlaca to move into Executive Session at 10:30pm to discuss non-renewal of teachers. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Ms. Lin, seconded by Mr. LaPlaca to return to open session at 11:00pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Ms. Patwa to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent regarding non-renewal of teachers. **VOTE:** All in favor with one abstention. Mr. Kueffner abstained.

MOTION by Mrs. Kelly to adjourn at 11:05pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk